

Asia Poker

Rules of the Games

Accounting and Internal Controls

Gaming Equipment

Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 19:40-1.2; and 19:46-1.15, 1.16, 1.17, 1.18  
and 1.19

Proposed New Rules: N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13T and 19:47-31

Authority: N.J.S.A. 5:12-5, 69a, 70f, 99a and 100

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to  
calendar requirement.

Submit written comments by July 6, 2007 to:

Lon E. Mamolen, Senior Counsel

Casino Control Commission

Arcade Building

Tennessee Avenue and the Boardwalk

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

The agency proposal follows:

### **Summary**

The proposed new rules and amendments govern the implementation of the game of asia poker in Atlantic City casinos. The actual rules of the game are set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.1 through 31.11.

Asia poker is similar to the authorized game of pai gow poker. Like pai gow poker, asia poker is played using a standard 52 card deck and one joker, and is played on a traditional "pai gow poker style" table with six player positions.

The starting position for the dealing or delivery of cards shall be determined, in a casino licensee's discretion, by the use an "asia poker shaker," a random number generator or, if an automated shuffler is being used, a flat disc button that is moved to the next player position in a clockwise direction as each round of play is completed. The dealer shall deal the first card or stack of

cards to the starting position. The dealer shall then continue to deal the cards in a clockwise rotation to all other positions, including the dealer, regardless of whether there is a wager at the position, until each position, including the dealer, has seven cards.

After the dealing of the cards has been completed, each player shall set his or her hands by arranging the cards into a high hand (four cards), medium hand (two cards) and low hand (one card). When setting the three hands, the four-card high hand must be higher in rank than the two-card medium hand, and the two-card medium hand must be higher in rank than the one-card low hand. For example, if the two-card hand contains a pair of sevens, the four card hand must contain at least a pair of sevens and the two remaining cards.

After all of the players have set their hands and placed their cards on the table face down, the seven cards of the dealer shall be turned over and the dealer shall set his hands by arranging the cards into a high, medium and low hand in the manner prescribed in the casino licensee's Rules of the Games Submission. The dealer shall then place his or her three hands face up on the appropriate area of the layout. A player may surrender his or her wager before the dealer exposes his or her cards. In such case, the dealer shall collect the wager and the seven cards of the player without exposing the cards to anyone.

Once the dealer's hands are set, the dealer shall expose all three hands of each player, starting with the player to the dealer's right and proceeding counterclockwise around the table. The dealer shall compare the high, medium and low hand of each player to the corresponding high, medium and low hand of the dealer. The dealer shall pay all winning wagers and collect all losing wagers, in order, beginning with the player farthest to the right of the dealer and continuing counterclockwise around the table.

All losing asia poker wagers shall be immediately collected by the dealer and put in the table inventory container. All losing asia poker hands shall also be collected. An asia poker wager shall lose if: (1) any two of the player's three hands (high, medium or low hand) are identical in rank ("copy hand") or lower

in rank than the dealer's corresponding hands; (2) the high hand of the player was not set so as to rank higher than the medium hand, or the medium hand of the player was not set so as to rank higher than the low hand of that player; or (3) the three hands of the player were not otherwise set correctly in accordance with the rules of the game (for example, a player forms a one-card medium hand and a five-card high hand).

All hands that result in a winning asia poker wager shall be immediately paid by the dealer from the table inventory container. After being paid, winning asia poker hands shall also be collected. An asia poker wager made by a player shall win if any two of the player's three hands (high, medium or low hand) are higher in rank than the dealer's corresponding hands. A winning asia poker wager shall be paid by a casino licensee at odds of 1 to 1.

The proposed amendment to N.J.A.C. 19:40-1.2 adds asia poker to the list of authorized table games. The proposed new rule N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13T contains the requirements for the asia poker layout and sign that would be used in the game. An asia poker shaker is also authorized for use.

The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.16 conform the asia poker rules pertaining to dice receipt, storage, inspection and removal from use to those applicable to pai gow and pai gow poker. The proposed amendment to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.17 specifies the use of a standard 52 card deck plus one joker for asia poker. Proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.17(h) include the addition of two card joker poker and asia poker to the list of games for which jokers are used in play. The initial omission of two card joker poker was an oversight. Further amendments to the end of that subsection cross-reference poker rankings, cards and poker hands for pai gow poker in N.J.A.C.

19:47.11.3, two card joker poker in N.J.A.C. 19:47-30.5 and asia poker in proposed N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.3. A proposed amendment to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18 specifies the frequency that cards are to change and card inspection requirements for asia poker. The proposed amendment to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.19 authorizes dealing asia poker from a manual or automated dealing shoe or

from the dealer's hand and authorizes the use of an automated shuffling device.

The remainder of the proposed new rules and amendments in subchapter 31 are technical proposals that govern the operation of asia poker in Atlantic City casinos. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.1 sets forth definitions applicable to asia poker. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.2 sets forth specifications for cards and the procedures for cards used with an automated shuffling device. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.3 lists the rankings of asia poker hands. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.4 describes the methods by which the starting position for the deal or delivery of cards shall be determined. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.5 describes the procedures for opening an asia poker table. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.6 sets forth the procedures for shuffling and cutting the cards. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.7 specifies procedures for placing wagers at asia poker. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.8, 31.9 and 31.10 sets forth the procedures for dealing the cards from a manual dealing shoe, from the hand, and from an automated dealing shoe, respectively. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.11 describes the procedure for determining the starting position for the deal or delivery of the cards. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.12 sets forth the procedure for the completion of each round of play, including the resolution of wagers at asia poker and the collection of cards. N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.13 details the procedure for permitting a player to wager at more than one player position at an asia poker table. Finally, N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.14 lists types of irregularities at asia poker and their disposition.

This notice of proposal is not required to be referenced in a rulemaking calendar since a public comment period of 60 days is being provided. See N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

**Full text** of the proposal follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets **[thus]**):

19:40-1.2 Definitions

(a) (No change.)

(b) The following words and terms, when used in these rules, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

...

“Table game” means one of the following authorized games approved by the Commission pursuant to N.J.S.A. 5:12-5: **asia poker**, baccarat, big six, blackjack, boston 5 stud poker, caribbean stud poker, casino war, colorado hold ’em poker, craps, double attack blackjack, double cross poker, double down stud, fast action hold ’em, flop poker, four card poker, let it ride poker, minibaccarat, mini-craps, mini-dice, pai gow, pai gow poker, poker, pokette, red dog, roulette, sic bo, spanish 21, texas hold ’em bonus poker, three card poker and two card joker poker.

...

**19:46-1.13T Asia poker table; asia poker shaker; physical characteristics; computerized random number generator**

**(a) Asia poker shall be played at a table having places for six players on one side of the table and a place for the dealer on the opposite side.**

**(b) The layout for an asia poker table shall be approved by the Commission and shall contain, at a minimum, the following:**

- 1. The name or trade name of the casino licensee;**
- 2. Six separate designated betting areas for the players at the table with each area being numbered one through six;**
- 3. Three separate areas located below each betting area which shall be designated for the placement of the high, medium and low hands of that player and configured with the high hand area farthest from the betting area, the low hand area closest to the betting area, and the medium hand area arrayed between the high hand area and the low hand area; and**

**4. Three separate areas located in front of the table inventory container designated for the placement of the high, medium and low hands of the dealer and configured with the dealer's high hand area closest to the dealer, the dealer's low hand area farthest from the dealer, and the dealer's medium hand area arrayed between the dealer's high hand area and the dealer's low hand area.**

**(c) Each asia poker table shall have a drop box and tip box attached to it on the same side of the gaming table as, but on opposite sides of, the dealer, and in locations approved by the Commission.**

**(d) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.4, asia poker may be played with a container, to be known as an "asia poker shaker," which shall be used to shake three dice before each hand of asia poker is dealt in order to determine the starting position for the dealing or delivery of the cards. The asia poker shaker shall be designed and constructed to contain any feature the Commission may require to maintain the integrity of the game and shall, at a minimum, adhere to the following specifications:**

**1. The asia poker shaker shall be capable of housing three dice and shall be designed so as to prevent the dice from being seen while the dealer is shaking it; and**

**2. The asia poker shaker shall have the name or identifying logo of the casino imprinted or impressed thereon.**

**(e) As an alternative to using the shaker and dice described in (d) above, a casino licensee may determine the starting position for the dealing or delivery of the cards in asia poker by utilizing a computerized random number generator that automatically selects and displays a number from 1 through 7 inclusive. Any computerized random number generator proposed for use by a casino licensee shall be approved by the Commission.**

19:46-1.15 Dice; physical characteristics

(a) (No change.)

(b) Each die used in gaming at pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker** shall comply with the requirements of (a) above except as follows:

1. - 3. (No change.)

(c) (No change.)

19:46-1.16 Dice; receipt; storage; inspections and removal from use

(a) – (d) (No change.)

(e) All dice shall be inspected and distributed to the gaming tables in accordance with one of the following applicable alternatives:

1. (No change.)

2. Alternative No. 2: Distribution to and inspection at the pit

stand:

i. (No change.)

ii. The inspection of the dice at the pit stand shall be

performed by:

(1) (No change.)

(2) For sic bo, mini-dice, pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, a floorperson, in the presence of another floorperson, both of whom are assigned the responsibility of supervising the operation and conduct of such games.

iii. (No change.)

iv. After completion of the inspection, the dice shall be distributed as follows:

(1) – (2) (No change.)

(3) For pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, the floorperson who inspected the dice shall, in the presence of the other floorperson who observed the inspection, distribute such dice directly to the dealer at each pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker** table. The dealer shall immediately place the dice in the pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker** shaker.

v. - vi. (No change.)

vii. Notwithstanding (e)2v(2) above and as an additional alternative to (e)2vi above, previously inspected reserve dice may be used for gaming without being reinspected if they are maintained in a locked compartment in the pit stand in accordance with the following procedures.

(1) – (2) (No change.)

(3) For pai gow, [and] pai gow poker **and asia poker**, a set of three dice, after being inspected, shall be placed in a sealed envelope or container. A label that identifies the date of inspection and contains the signatures of those responsible for the inspection shall be attached to each envelope or container.

3. Alternative No. 3: Inspection in primary storage area and distribution to tables:

i. - ii. (No change.)

iii. After completion of the inspection, the person performing the inspection shall seal the dice as follows:

(1) – (2) (No change.)

(3) For pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, after each set of three dice are inspected, they shall be placed in a sealed envelope or container. A label that identifies the date of the inspection and contains the signatures of those responsible for the inspection shall be attached to each envelope or container.

iv. At the beginning of each gaming day and at such other times as may be necessary, a table games shift manager or casino supervisor thereof and a casino security officer shall distribute the dice as follows:

(1) – (2) (No change.)

(3) For pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, the sealed envelope or container shall be distributed to a pit boss in each pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker** pit or placed in a locked compartment in the pit stand. When the sealed dice are distributed to the pai gow, [or] pai gow poker

**or asia poker** table by the pit boss, a floorperson, after assuring the seal and envelopes or containers are intact and free from tampering, shall open the sealed envelope or container, in the presence of the dealer, and place the dice in the pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker** shaker.

v. When the envelope or container or the seal is damaged, broken or shows indication of tampering, the dice shall not be used for gaming activity unless the dice are reinspected as follows:

(1) (No change.)

(2) For pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, in accordance with the procedures in subsection (e)2 above.

vi. - viii. (No change.)

(f) – (i) (No change.)

(j) At the end of each gaming day or, in the alternative, at least once each gaming day at the same time each day, as designated by the casino licensee and approved by the Commission, and at such other times as may be necessary, a table games shift manager or casino supervisor thereof may collect all extra dice in dice reserve.

1. If collected, dice shall be returned to the primary storage area; provided, however, that any dice which have not been inspected and sealed pursuant to the requirements in (e)3 (Alternative No. 3) above shall, prior to use for actual gaming, be inspected as follows:

i. (No change.)

ii. For pai gow, [or] pai gow poker **or asia poker**, in accordance with the requirements in (e)2 above.

2. (No change.)

(k) – (l) (No change.)

#### 19:46-1.17 Cards; physical characteristics

(a) Cards used to play blackjack, spanish 21, double attack blackjack, baccarat, minibaccarat, pai gow poker, pokette, red dog, casino war, poker,

caribbean stud poker, let it ride poker, three card poker, fast action hold'em, colorado hold 'em poker, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, flop poker, two card joker poker, **asia poker** and double down stud shall be in decks of 52 cards each with each card identical in size and shape to every other card in such deck. Notwithstanding the foregoing, decks of cards used to play the following games shall be modified as follows:

1. A pai gow poker **and asia poker** deck shall include one additional joker card, which shall be identical in size and shape to every other card in such deck;

2. - 3. (No change.)

(b) – (g) (No change.)

(h) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a manufacturer from manufacturing decks of cards with one or more jokers contained therein; provided, however, such jokers shall not be used by the casino licensee in the play of any game other than pai gow poker, **two card joker poker or asia poker** in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-11.3, -30.5 or -31.3, respectively.

(i) – (j) (No change.)

19:46-1.18 Cards; receipt, storage, inspections and removal from use

(a) – (f) (No change.)

(g) Any cards which have been opened and placed on a gaming table shall be changed at least every 24 hours. In addition:

1. (No change.)

2. Cards opened for use on a pai gow poker, caribbean stud poker, let it ride poker, colorado hold 'em poker, boston 5 stud poker, double cross

poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, two card joker poker, flop poker, **asia poker** or three card poker table and dealt from a dealing shoe and cards opened for use on a double down stud table and dealt from the hand shall be changed at least every eight hours;

3. Cards opened for use on a pai gow poker, caribbean stud poker, let it ride poker, colorado hold 'em poker, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, flop poker, two card joker poker, **asia poker** or three card poker table and dealt from the dealer's hand shall be changed at least every four hours;

4. - 6. (No change.)

(h) – (m) (No change.)

(n) When the envelopes or containers of used cards and reserve cards with broken seals are returned to the casino security department, they shall be inspected for tampering, marks, alterations, missing or additional cards or anything that might indicate unfair play.

1. - 2. (No change.)

3. The casino licensee shall also inspect:

i. - ii. (No change.)

iii. All cards used for pai gow poker, caribbean stud poker, let it ride poker, colorado hold 'em poker, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, flop poker, two card joker poker, **asia poker** or three card poker;

iv. - v. (No change.)

4. - 11. (No change.)

(o) – (r) (No change.)

19:46-1.19 Dealing shoes; automated shuffling devices

(a) (No change.)

(b) Cards used to game at blackjack, spanish 21, double attack blackjack, pai gow poker, minibaccarat, red dog, caribbean stud poker, let it

ride poker, three card poker, fast action hold'em, colorado hold 'em poker, casino war, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, flop poker, two card joker poker, **asia poker** and double down stud shall be dealt from a manual or automated dealing shoe which shall be secured to the gaming table when the table is open for gaming activity and secured in a locked compartment when the table is not open for gaming activity. Cards used to game at baccarat shall be dealt from a dealing shoe which shall be secured in a locked compartment when the table is not open for gaming activity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, cards used to game at:

1. Pai gow poker, double down stud, caribbean stud poker, three card poker, colorado hold 'em poker, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, flop poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, **asia poker** and two card joker poker may be dealt from the dealer's hand in accordance with the rules for each game in N.J.A.C. 19:47[.]; **and**

2. (No change.)

(c) A device which automatically shuffles cards may be utilized at the game of blackjack, spanish 21, double attack blackjack, pai gow poker, minibaccarat, red dog, poker, caribbean stud poker, let it ride poker, three card poker, fast action hold'em, colorado hold 'em poker, casino war, boston 5 stud poker, double cross poker, four card poker, texas hold 'em bonus poker, flop poker, two card joker poker, **asia poker** and double down stud in addition to a manual or automated dealing shoe, provided that:

1. - 2. (No change.)

(d) - (h) (No change.)

## **SUBCHAPTER 31. ASIA POKER**

### **19:47-31.1 Definitions**

**The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:**

**“Copy hand” means either a high hand, medium hand or low hand of a player which is identical in rank to the corresponding high hand, medium hand or low hand of the dealer.**

**“High hand” means the four-card hand formed by the player or dealer from the seven cards that he or she is dealt so that the four-card hand is higher in rank than the medium hand and low hand.**

**“Low hand” means the one-card hand formed by the player or dealer from the seven cards that he or she is dealt so that the one-card hand is lower in rank than the high hand and the medium hand.**

**“Medium hand” means the two-card hand formed by the player or dealer from the seven cards that he or she is dealt so that the two-card hand is lower in rank than the high hand and higher in rank than the low hand.**

**“Rank or ranking” means the relative position of a card or group of cards as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.3.**

**“Set or setting the hands” means the process of forming a high hand, medium hand and low hand from the seven cards that are dealt to a player or the dealer.**

**“Suit” means one of the four categories of cards: club, diamond, heart or spade.**

#### **19:47-31.2 Cards; number of decks**

**(a) Except as provided in (b) below, asia poker shall be played with one deck of cards that meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.17, including one joker, and one additional cutting card and one additional cover card. The cutting card and cover card shall be opaque and in a solid color readily distinguishable from the color of the backs and edges of the playing cards, as approved by the Commission. Nothing in this section or**

**N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.17 shall prohibit a casino licensee from using decks which are manufactured with two jokers provided that only one joker is used for gaming at asia poker.**

**(b) If an automated card shuffling device is used for asia poker, a casino licensee shall be permitted to use a second deck of cards to play the game, provided that:**

- 1. Each deck of cards complies with the requirements of (a) above;**
- 2. The backs of the cards in the two decks are of a different color;**
- 3. One deck is being shuffled by the automated card shuffling device while the other deck is being dealt or used to play the game;**
- 4. Both decks are continuously alternated in and out of play, with each deck being used for every other round of play; and**
- 5. The cards from one deck only shall be placed in the discard rack at any given time.**

**19:47-31.3 Asia poker rankings; cards; poker hands**

**(a) The rank of the cards used in asia poker, in order from highest to lowest rank, shall be: ace, king, queen, jack, 10, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, and two. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an ace may be used to complete a “straight flush” or a “straight” formed with a two, three and four. Except as otherwise provided in (c) below, the joker shall be used and ranked as an ace.**

**(b) The permissible poker hands at the game of asia poker, in order from highest to lowest rank, shall be:**

- 1. “Four aces” is a high hand consisting of all four aces or three aces and the joker;**
- 2. “Royal flush” is a high hand consisting of an ace, king, queen and jack of the same suit;**

3. **“Straight flush” is a high hand consisting of four cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking, with ace, two, three and four being the highest ranking straight flush; king, queen, jack and 10 being the second highest ranking straight flush, and five, four, three and two being the lowest ranking straight flush;**

4. **“Four-of-a-kind” is a high hand consisting of four cards of the same rank regardless of suit, with four kings being the highest ranking four-of-a-kind and four twos being the lowest ranking four-of-a-kind;**

5. **“Flush” is a high hand consisting of four cards of the same suit, and when comparing two flushes, the provisions of (e) below shall be applied;**

6. **“Straight” is a high hand consisting of four cards of consecutive rank, regardless of suit, with an ace, king, queen and jack being the highest ranking straight; an ace, two, three, and four being the second highest ranking straight, and a five, four, three and two being the lowest ranking straight;**

7. **“Three-of-a-kind” is a high hand containing three cards of the same rank regardless of suit, with three aces being the highest ranking three-of-a-kind and three twos being the lowest ranking three-of-a-kind;**

8. **“Two pairs” is a high hand containing two “pairs,” with two aces and two kings being the highest ranking two pairs and two threes and two twos being the lowest ranking two pairs; and**

9. **“Pair” is either a high hand or a medium hand consisting of two cards of the same rank, regardless of suit, with two aces being the highest ranking pair and two twos being the lowest ranking pair.**

**(c) For purposes of setting the hands, a joker may be used as any card to complete a “straight,” a “flush,” a “straight flush” or a “royal flush.”**

**(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of (b) above, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, determine that a straight flush formed with an ace, two, three, and four of the same suit shall be the lowest ranking straight flush and that a straight formed with an ace, two, three, and four, regardless of suit, shall be the lowest ranking straight. If a casino licensee chooses to exercise this option, it shall so indicate in its Rules of the Games Submission.**

**(e) When comparing two high hands, two medium hands or two low hands which are of identical poker hand rank pursuant to the provisions of this section, or which contain none of the poker hands authorized herein, the hand which contains the highest ranking card as provided in (a) above not contained in the other hand shall be considered the higher ranking hand. If the two hands are of identical rank after the application of this subsection, the hands shall be considered a copy hand.**

**19:47-31.4 Asia poker shaker and dice; computerized random number generator; button**

**(a) The starting position for the dealing or delivery of cards in asia poker shall be determined by using one of the following methods:**

**1. Three dice and an asia poker shaker, which shall meet the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.15 and 1.13T(d), respectively, and be used in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13T(d) and 19:47-31.11(b).**

**i. The three dice shall be maintained at all times within the asia poker shaker.**

**ii. The asia poker shaker and the dice contained therein shall be the responsibility of the dealer and shall never be left unattended while at the table.**

**iii. No dice that have been placed in an asia poker shaker for use in gaming shall remain on a table for more than 24 hours;**

**2. A computerized random number generator that, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13T(e) and 19:47-31.11(c), shall automatically select and display a number from 1 through 7 inclusive; or**

**3. If an automated card shuffling device and dealing shoe is used pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.10 and 31.11(d), a button that is moved by the dealer clockwise around the table as each round of play is completed.**

#### **19:47-31.5 Opening of the table for gaming**

**(a) After receiving a deck of cards at the table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18, the dealer shall, as applicable, comply with the requirements of either N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18(e)1 and (b) through (d) below or the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18(e)2 and (r).**

**(b) If the deck of cards used by the casino licensee contains two jokers, the dealer and a casino supervisor shall ensure that only one joker is utilized and that the other joker is torn in half and discarded.**

**Following the inspection of the cards by the dealer and the verification by the floorperson assigned to the table, the cards shall be spread out face up on the table for visual inspection by the first player to arrive at the table. The cards shall be spread out according to suit and in sequence and shall include one joker.**

**(c) After the first player is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards, the cards shall be turned face down on the table, mixed thoroughly by a “washing” or “chemmy shuffle” of the cards and stacked. Once the cards have been stacked, they shall be shuffled in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.6.**

**(d) If a casino licensee uses an automated card shuffling device to play the game of asia poker and two decks of cards are received at the table pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18 and 19:47-31.2, each deck of cards shall be separately sorted, inspected, verified, spread, inspected, mixed,**

stacked and shuffled in accordance with the provisions of (a) through (c) above immediately prior to the commencement of play.

**19:47-31.6 Shuffle and cut of the cards**

(a) Immediately prior to the commencement of play, unless the cards were pre-shuffled pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18(r), and after each round of play has been completed, the dealer shall shuffle the cards either manually or by use of an automated card shuffling device so that the cards are randomly intermixed. Upon completion of the shuffle, the dealer or device shall place the deck of cards in a single stack; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit an automated card shuffling device which, upon completion of the shuffling of the cards, inserts the cards directly into an automated or manual dealing shoe.

(b) After the cards have been shuffled and stacked, the dealer shall:

1. If the cards were shuffled using an automated card shuffling device, deal or deliver the cards in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.8, 31.9 or 31.10; or

2. If the cards were shuffled manually or were pre-shuffled pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18(r), cut the cards in accordance with the procedures set forth in (c) below.

(c) If a cut of the cards is required, the dealer shall:

1. Cut the deck, using one hand, by:

- i. Placing the cover card on the table in front of the deck of cards;
- ii. Taking a stack of at least 10 cards from the top of the deck and placing them on top of the cover card;
- iii. Placing the cards remaining in the deck on top of the stack of cards that were cut and placed on the cover card pursuant to (c)1ii above; and

**iv. Removing the cover card and placing it in the discard rack; and**

**2. Deal the cards in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.8, 31.9 or 31.10.**

**(d) After the cards have been cut and before any cards have been dealt, a casino supervisor may require the cards to be recut if he or she determines that the cut was performed improperly or in any way that might affect the integrity or fairness of the game.**

**(e) Whenever there is no gaming activity at an asia poker table which is open for gaming, the cards shall be spread out on the table either face up or face down. If the cards are spread face down, they shall be turned face up once a player arrives at the table. After the first player is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards, the procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.5(c) shall be completed.**

#### **19:47-31.7 Wagers**

**(a) All wagers at asia poker shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate betting area of the asia poker layout. A verbal wager accompanied by cash shall not be accepted at the game of asia poker.**

**(b) Only players who are seated at the asia poker table may place a wager at the game. Once a player has placed a wager and received cards, that player must remain seated until the completion of the round of play.**

**(c) All wagers at asia poker shall be placed prior to the dealer announcing "No more bets" in accordance with the dealing procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.8, 31.9 or 31.10. No wager at asia poker shall be made, increased or withdrawn after the dealer has announced "No more bets."**

#### **19:47-31.8 Procedures for dealing the cards from a manual dealing shoe**

**(a) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from a manual dealing shoe, the dealing shoe shall meet the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.19. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.6 have been completed, the cards shall be placed in the manual dealing shoe and the dealer shall announce “No more bets.”**

**(b) The dealer shall then, using one of the procedures authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.11, determine the starting position for dealing the cards.**

**(c) After the starting position for dealing the cards has been determined, each card shall be removed from the dealing shoe with the left hand of the dealer and placed face down on the appropriate area of the layout with the right hand of the dealer. The dealer shall deal the first card to the starting position as determined in (b) above and, moving clockwise around the table, deal a card to all other positions, including the dealer, regardless of whether there is a wager at the position. The dealer shall then return to the starting position and deal a second card in a clockwise rotation and shall continue dealing until each position, including the dealer, has seven cards.**

**(d) After seven cards have been dealt to each position, including the dealer, the dealer shall remove the remaining cards from the shoe and determine whether exactly four cards are left.**

**1. If four cards remain, the four cards shall not be exposed to anyone and shall be placed in the discard rack. The dealer shall then collect any cards dealt to a position where there is no wager and place them in the discard rack without exposing the cards.**

**2. If more or less than four cards remain, the dealer shall determine if the cards were misdealt. If the cards were misdealt and a player or the dealer has more or less than seven cards, all hands shall be void pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.14. If the cards have not been misdealt, all hands shall be considered void and the entire deck of cards shall be removed from the table pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.**

**19:47-31.9 Procedures for dealing the cards from the hand**

**(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of N.J.A.C. 19:46 or this chapter, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, permit a dealer to deal the cards used to play asia poker from his or her hand.**

**(b) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from the dealer's hand, the following requirements shall be observed.**

**1. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.6 have been completed, the dealer shall place the deck of cards in either hand.**

**i. Once the dealer has chosen the hand in which he or she will hold the cards, the dealer shall use that hand whenever holding the cards during that round of play.**

**ii. The cards held by the dealer shall at all times be kept in front of the dealer and over the table inventory container.**

**2. The dealer shall then announce "No more bets" prior to dealing seven stacks of seven cards each to the area in front of the table inventory container. The dealer shall deal each card by holding the deck of cards in the chosen hand and using the other hand to remove the top card of the deck and place it face down on the appropriate area of the layout.**

**(c) The dealer shall deal the first seven cards moving from left to right and the second seven cards moving from right to left and shall continue alternating in this manner until there are seven stacks of seven cards.**

**(d) After seven stacks of seven cards have been dealt, the dealer shall determine whether exactly four cards are left by spreading them face down on the layout.**

**1. If four cards remain, the cards shall not be exposed to anyone at the table and shall be placed in the discard rack.**

**2. If more or less than four cards remain, the dealer shall determine if the cards were misdealt. If the cards were misdealt and a**

**stack has more or less than seven cards, the round of play shall be void and the cards reshuffled. If the cards have not been misdealt, the round of play shall be considered void and the entire deck of cards shall be removed from the table pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.**

**(e) Once the dealer has completed dealing the seven stacks and placed the four remaining cards in the discard rack, the dealer shall then, using one of the procedures authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.11, determine the starting position for delivering the stacks of cards.**

**(f) After the starting position for delivering the stacks of cards has been determined, the dealer shall deliver the first stack to the starting position as determined in (e) above and, moving clockwise around the table, deliver the remaining stacks in order to all positions, including the dealer, regardless of whether there is a wager at the position. In delivering the stacks, the stack farthest to the left of the dealer shall be considered the first stack, and the stack farthest to the right of the dealer shall be considered the seventh stack. The dealer shall deliver each stack face down.**

**(g) After the seven stacks have been delivered to each position, including the dealer, the dealer shall collect any stacks dealt to a player position where there is no wager and place them in the discard rack without exposing the cards.**

#### **19:47-31.10 Procedures for dealing the cards from an automated dealing shoe**

**(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of N.J.A.C. 19:46 or this chapter, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, choose to have the cards used to play asia poker dealt from an automated dealing shoe which dispenses cards in stacks of seven cards, provided that the shoe, its location and the procedures for its use are approved by the Commission.**

**(b) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from an automated dealing shoe, the following requirements shall be observed.**

**1. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.6 have been completed, the cards shall be placed in the automated dealing shoe.**

**2. The dealer shall then announce “No more bets” prior to the shoe dispensing any stacks of cards.**

**(c) The dealer shall then, using one of the procedures authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.11, determine the starting position for delivering the stacks of cards.**

**(d) Once the starting position has been determined in accordance with (c) above, the dealer shall deliver the first stack of cards dispensed by the automated dealing shoe to that position. As the remaining stacks are dispensed to the dealer by the automated dealing shoe, the dealer shall deliver a stack in turn to each of the other positions, including the dealer, moving clockwise around the table, whether or not there is a wager at the position. The dealer shall deliver each stack face down.**

**(e) After the seven stacks of seven cards have been dispensed and delivered to each position, including the dealer, the dealer shall remove the remaining cards from the shoe and determine whether exactly four cards are left by spreading them face down on the layout.**

**1. If four cards remain, the cards shall not be exposed to anyone at the table and shall be placed in the discard rack. The dealer shall then collect any stacks dealt to a position where there is no wager and place them in the discard rack without exposing the cards.**

**2. If more or less than four cards remain, the dealer shall determine if the cards were misdealt. If the cards were misdealt and a stack has more or less than seven cards, the round of play shall be void and the cards reshuffled. If the cards have not been misdealt, the round of play shall be considered void and the entire deck of cards shall be removed from the table pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.**

**19:47-31.11 Procedure for determining the starting position for dealing cards or delivering stacks of cards**

(a) In order to determine the starting position for the dealing of cards or the delivery of stacks of cards for the game of asia poker, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, use the procedure authorized in (b), (c) or (d) below.

(b) The dealer shall shake the asia poker shaker and dice described in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.4 at least three times so as to cause a random mixture of the dice.

1. The dealer shall then remove the lid covering the asia poker shaker, total the dice and announce the total.

2. To determine the starting position, the dealer shall count counterclockwise around the table, with the position of the dealer considered number one, and continuing around the table with each betting position counted in order, including the dealer, regardless of whether there is a wager at the position, until the count matches the total of the three dice.

3. Examples are as follows:

i. If the dice total 8, the dealer would receive the first card or stack of cards; or

ii. If the dice total 14, the sixth betting position would receive the first card or stack of cards.

4. After the dealing or delivery of the cards has been completed in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.8, 31.9 or 31.10, the dealer shall place the cover on the asia poker shaker and shake the shaker once. The asia poker shaker shall then be placed to the right of the dealer.

(c) The dealer may use a computerized random number generator approved by the Commission to select and display a number from 1 through 7 inclusive, and verbally announce the number. To determine the starting position, the dealer shall count counterclockwise around the

**table, with the position of the dealer considered number one, and continuing around the table with each betting position counted in order, including the dealer, regardless of whether there is a wager at the position, until the count matches the number displayed by the random number generator.**

**(d) If an automated card shuffling device and dealing shoe is used pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.10, the dealer may use a flat disc button approved by the Commission to indicate the starting position. At the commencement of play, the button shall be placed in front of the dealer. Thereafter, the button shall rotate around the table in a clockwise manner after each round of play.**

**(e) After the starting position for a round of play has been determined, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, mark that position by the use of an additional cut card or similar object.**

**19:47-31.12 Procedures for completion of each round of play; setting of hands; payment and collection of wagers**

**(a) After the dealing of the cards has been completed, each player shall set his or her hands by arranging the cards into a high hand, medium hand and low hand. When setting the three hands, the high hand shall be higher in rank than the medium hand, and the medium hand shall be higher in rank than the low hand. For example, if the medium hand contains a pair of sevens, the high hand must contain at least a pair of sevens and the two remaining cards.**

**(b) Each player at the table shall be responsible for setting his or her own hands and no other person except the dealer may touch the cards of that player. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a player requests assistance in the setting of his or her hands, the dealer may inform the requesting player of the manner in which the casino licensee requires the hands of the dealer to be set in its Rules of the Games Submission. Each player shall be required to keep the seven cards in full view of the dealer**

at all times. Once each player has set a high, medium and low hand and placed the three hands face down on the appropriate area of the layout, the player shall not touch the cards again.

(c) After all players have set their hands and placed the cards on the table, the seven cards of the dealer shall be turned over and the dealer shall set his or her hands by arranging the cards into a high, medium and low hand. The dealer shall then place the three hands face up on the appropriate area of the layout.

(d) Each casino licensee shall submit to the Commission in its Rules of the Games Submission the manner in which it will require the hands of the dealer to be set.

(e) A player may announce that he or she wishes to surrender his or her wager prior to the dealer exposing any of the three hands of that player pursuant to (f) below. Once the player has announced his or her intention to surrender, the dealer shall:

1. Immediately collect the wager from that player; and
2. Collect the seven cards dealt to that player without exposing the cards to anyone at the table. The dealer shall verify that seven cards were collected by counting them face down on the layout prior to placing them in the discard rack.

(f) Once the dealer has set a high hand, medium hand and low hand pursuant to (d) above, the dealer shall expose all three hands of each player, starting from the right and proceeding counterclockwise around the table. The dealer shall compare the high, medium and low hand of each player to the high, medium and low hand of the dealer and shall announce if the asia poker wager of that player shall win or lose.

(g) All losing asia poker wagers shall be immediately collected by the dealer and put in the table inventory container. All losing asia poker hands shall also be collected. An asia poker wager made by a player shall lose if:

- 1. Any two of the player's three hands are identical ("copy hand") or lower in rank than the dealer's corresponding hands;**
- 2. Any one of the player's three hands is identical in rank to the corresponding hand of the dealer and one of the player's remaining hands is lower in rank than the dealer's corresponding hand;**
- 3. The high hand of the player was not set so as to rank higher than his or her medium hand, or the medium hand of the player was not set so as to rank higher than his or her low hand; or**
- 4. The three hands of the player were not otherwise set correctly in accordance with the rules of the game (for example, a player forms a one-card medium hand and a five-card high hand).**

**(h) All hands that result in a winning asia poker wager shall be immediately paid by the dealer from the table inventory container. After being paid, winning asia poker hands shall also be collected. The dealer shall pay all winning wagers and collect all losing wagers, in order, beginning with the player farthest to the right of the dealer and continuing counterclockwise around the table. An asia poker wager made by a player shall win if any two of the player's three hands are higher in rank than the dealer's corresponding hands.**

**(j) A winning asia poker wager shall be paid off by a casino licensee at odds of 1 to 1.**

**(k) All cards collected by the dealer shall be picked up in order and placed in the discard rack in such a way that they can be readily arranged to reconstruct each hand in case of a question or dispute.**

#### **19:47-31.13 A player wagering on more than one betting area**

**(a) A casino licensee may, in its discretion, permit a player to wager on no more than two betting areas at an asia poker table, which areas must be adjacent to each other.**

**(b) If a casino licensee permits a player to wager on two adjacent betting areas, the cards dealt to each betting area shall be played**

separately. If the two wagers are not equal, the player shall be required to rank and set the hand with the larger wager before ranking and setting the other hand. If the amounts wagered are equal, each hand shall be played separately in a counterclockwise rotation with the first hand being ranked and set before the player proceeds to rank and set the second hand. Once a hand has been ranked and set and placed face down on the appropriate area of the layout, the hand may not be changed.

**19:47-31.14 Irregularities; invalid roll of the dice**

(a) If the dealer uncovers the asia poker shaker and all three dice do not land flat on the bottom of the shaker, the dealer shall call a “No roll” and reshake the dice.

(b) If the dealer uncovers the asia poker shaker and a die or dice fall out of the shaker, the dealer shall call a “No roll” and reshake the dice.

(c) If the dealer incorrectly totals the dice and deals the first card or delivers the first stack to the wrong position, all hands shall be called dead and the dealer shall reshuffle the cards.

(d) If the dealer exposes any of the cards dealt to a player, the player has the option of voiding the hand. Without looking at the unexposed cards, the player shall make the decision either to play out the hand or to void the hand.

(e) If a card or cards in the hand of the dealer is exposed, all hands shall be void and the cards shall be reshuffled.

(f) A card found turned face up in the shoe shall not be used in the game and shall be placed in the discard rack. If more than one card is found turned face up in the shoe, all hands shall be void and the cards shall be reshuffled.

(g) A card drawn in error without its face being exposed shall be used as though it was the next card from the shoe.

(h) If any player or the dealer is dealt an incorrect number of cards, all hands shall be void and the cards reshuffled.

**(i) If the dealer does not set his or her hands in the manner submitted to the Commission pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.12, the hands must be reset in accordance with this submission and the round of play completed.**

**(j) If a card is exposed while the dealer is dealing the seven stacks in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.9, the cards shall be reshuffled.**

**(k) If cards are being dealt from the hand and the dealer fails to deal the seven stacks in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-31.9(c), the cards shall be reshuffled.**

**(l) If an automated card shuffling device is being used and the device jams, stops shuffling during a shuffle, or fails to complete a shuffle cycle, the cards shall be reshuffled in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.**

**(m) If an automated dealing shoe is being used and the device jams, stops dealing cards, or fails to deal all cards during a round of play, the round of play shall be void, and the cards shall be removed from the device and reshuffled with any cards already dealt, in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.**

**(n) Any automated card shuffling device or automated dealing shoe shall be removed from a gaming table before any other method of shuffling or dealing may be utilized at that table.**